

European Communities

B23.28

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1977 - 1978

14 November 1977

DOCUMENT 372/77

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Political Affairs Committee

on acts of terrorism in the Community

(Docs. 327/77 and 328/77)

Rapporteur: Mr Charles FLETCHER-COOKE

At its sitting of 12 October 1977, the European Parliament referred two motions for a resolution to the Political Affairs Committee :

- motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Fellenmaier, Lord Brimelow, Mr Holst, Mr Broeks, Mr Zagari, Mr Bayerl and Mr Giraud, on behalf of the Socialist Group on terrorism in the Community (Doc. 327/77/rev)
- motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Klepsch, on behalf of the Christian-Democratic Group, Mr Durieux on behalf of the Liberal and Democratic Group and Mr Kaspereit on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats on terrorism in the Community (Doc. 328/77/rev.)

and instructed it to draw up a report for its November part-session.

On 20 October 1977, the Political Affairs Committee appointed Mr Fletcher-Cooke rapporteur.

It considered the motion for a resolution at its meetings of 20 October and 2 November 1977 and adopted it unanimously at the latter meeting.

Present: Mr A. Bertrand, chairman; Mr Radoux, vice-chairman; Mr Johnston, vice-chairman; Mr Fletcher-Cooke, rapporteur; Mr Amadei, Mr Baas (deputizing for Mr Bettiza), Mr Berkhouver, Lord Brimelow, Mr Evans (deputizing for Mr Prescott), Mr F. Hansen (deputizing for Mr Sieglerschmidt), Mr Klepsch, Mr Kunz (deputizing for Mr Jahn), Mr Mitchell, Mr W. Müller (deputizing for Mr Faure), Lord Reay, Mr Scelba and Mr Verhaegen (deputizing for Mr McDonald).

The explanatory statement will be given orally.

C O N T E N T S

	<u>Page</u>
MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION	5

ANNEXES

I. MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION tabled by Mr Fellermaier, Lord Brimelow, Mr Holst, Mr Broeksz, Mr Zagari, Mr Bayerl and Mr Giraud, on behalf of the Socialist Group, on terrorism in the Community (Doc. 327/77/rev.)..	7
II. MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION tabled by Mr Klepsch, on behalf of the Christian-Democratic Group, Mr Durieux, on behalf of the Liberal and Democratic Group and Mr Kaspereit, on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats, on terrorism in the Community (Doc. 328/77/rev.)..	9

The Political Affairs Committee hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on acts of terrorism in the Community

The European Parliament,

- noting with deep concern the increase in acts of terrorism committed in several Member States of the European Community as well as outside the Community,
- noting that these acts of terrorism frequently appear to be the result of international criminal planning and that terrorists increasingly cross the Member States' frontiers before or after perpetrating their crimes, thus demonstrating the international dimension of their activities,
- considering that parliaments and governments of the Member States have approved, or are in the process of adopting various special measures designed to provide the best possible protection for the individual person as well as for the general public against acts of terrorism,
- considering that a systematic reinforcement of the joint efforts by the governments of the Member States to fight terrorism is essential in order to provide effective protection for the citizens of the Community and its democratic system,
- reaffirming the necessity that anti-terrorist legislation and concrete measures taken by parliaments and governments of the Member States must fully respect the democratic rights of freedom of expression and freedom of political activity,
- recalling its resolution of 14 January 1977¹ which it adopted unanimously and in which it called on the governments and parliaments of the Member States of the European Community to ratify the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism drawn up by the Council of Europe,
- having regard to the report of the Political Affairs Committee (Doc. 372/77);

1. Condemns unconditionally all acts of terrorism;
2. Calls on the governments of the Member States to make full and continuous use of the Community and European Political Cooperation machinery, with the full participation of the Commission of the European Communities, and with special conferences as appropriate, in order to improve the already existing cooperation between national authorities within the Community and international bodies outside the Community;

¹ OJ No. C 30, 7.2.1977, p.34

3. Calls on the governments of the Member States to give effect to existing international agreements in order effectively to suppress terrorism, and in this context requests that in the United Nations Organization they should try to accelerate the conclusion of a Convention against the taking of hostages which is to be submitted to the General Assembly in order to achieve worldwide and binding agreements in the matter;
4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Foreign Ministers of the nine Member States meeting in political cooperation, to the parliaments and governments of the Member States, as well as to the Council and the Commission of the European Communities.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (DOCUMENT 327/77/rev.)

tabled by Mr FELLERMAIER, Lord BRIMELOW, Mr HOLST, Mr BROEKSZ, Mr ZAGARI, Mr BAYERL and Mr GIRAUD, on behalf of the Socialist Group

with request for urgent debate pursuant to Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure

on terrorism in the Community

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the justified special measures approved by the national parliaments and designed to provide the best possible protection for the public,
- having regard to existing and planned measures to improve cooperation throughout the Community between the national authorities responsible for dealing with the problem of terrorism,
- whereas freedom of expression and freedom of political activity are guaranteed in the Member States of the European Community, which are all democratic,
- whereas there can be no possible justification for terrorism of any degree within the Community,
- whereas terrorism poses a threat to the entire population even though it does not claim large numbers of victims,

1. Condemns unconditionally all acts of terrorism within the Community;
2. Demands that all terrorists in the Community, whatever their motives, be apprehended, charged and punished by due process of the law;
3. Welcomes the vigour, stringency and determination with which the governments of Member States beset with terrorism have applied the law;
4. Encourages governments in their resolve to ensure that restrictions on freedom are kept to a minimum;
5. Insists that parliaments should examine the need for full emergency powers at short intervals and suspend special measures as soon as possible;
6. Considers it important to avoid special measures which cause hostility between sections of the population within the Community;

7. Calls for the further development and reinforcement of the bodies responsible for combatting terrorism in the Community;
8. Calls for effective Community control of the sale of weapons to private individuals and the bringing of weapons over State borders;
9. Considers it essential that governments should demonstrate to their people their determination to conquer terrorism by means of measures approved in Parliament;
10. Stresses, however, that every effort should be made to eliminate the causes of terrorism and, despite the present extent of this problem, to maintain a climate of peace, openness, stability and justice;
11. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Communities and, for information, to the parliaments of the Member States.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (DOCUMENT 328/77/rev.)

tabled by Mr KLEPSCH on behalf of the Christian-Democratic Group,
Mr DURIEUX on behalf of the Liberal and Democratic Group and
Mr KASPEREIT on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats

with request for urgent debate pursuant to Rule 14 of the Rules of
Procedure

on terrorism in the Community

The European Parliament,

1. Expresses deep concern at the increase in acts of terrorism in several Member States of the European Communities;
2. Condemns in the strongest possible terms the cold-blooded murders and abductions that have taken place in Europe and other parts of the world in recent months;
3. Notes that these acts of terrorism are frequently the result of international criminal planning;
4. Points out that terrorists increasingly cross international frontiers to perpetrate their criminal deeds;
5. Considers that joint efforts are essential in order to provide effective protection for all citizens and to safeguard democracy in the European Community;
6. Expects the Council to adopt measures to strengthen cooperation in the combatting of crimes of violence and terrorism within the European Community;
7. Recommends that the Council give consideration to the following measures:
 - (a) the setting up of a permanent conference of ministers responsible for the internal security of individual Member States;
 - (b) the harmonization of legal and administrative provisions on internal security;
 - (c) the harmonization of identity card and registration measures;
 - (d) the harmonization of arms legislation
 - (e) the establishment of an integrated system of investigation within the Community;
 - (f) extension of mutual legal assistance between the Member States in the Community;
8. Calls upon the Council to give every possible encouragement to the conclusion of international agreements on measures to prevent terrorism.

